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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

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SUBJECT FOREIGN RADIO COMMENTS RELATED
TO THE SITUATION IN KOREA No. 6

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION: There have been several weekend developments in Soviet-Communist

propaganda related to the Korean situation. The following are among the most noteworthy:

(1) the first appearance of an American prisoner of war on the North Korean radio; (2) exploitation of the unchecked North Korean advance primarily in terms of an exclusively American defeat; (3) increasingly overt references to the "peace" forces in a militaristic context; and (4) the beginning of a campaign for "active support" of the Korean "people." Western-oriented sources continue to speculate on possible future Soviet moves; they also show concern over the extent of the American military commitment that will be required to stop and turn back the Korean Communists.

USA CAPTAIN AMEROS NUGENT READS COMMUNIST-PREPARED STATEMENT (UNDER PRESSURE?): The North Koreans appear to have been almost as completely briefed and prepared in psychological warfare as in military equipment, tactics, and strategy. They have already broadcast turncoat statements by former South Korean officials, both civilian and military. And yesterday, 9 July, a captured American Army captain, ostensibly on his own volition and ostensibly expressing his own opinions, made a 900-word statement over Radio Seoul. Part of its gist is that the American troops did not know why they were "compelled to fight," but that after a few days in the prisoners' camp they "came to realize the ardent aspirations and wishes of the Korean people to achieve unification of their Fatherland," and that now they sympathize with these aspirations. The statement asks: "Why and for whom are we separated by such an immense distance from our own native country where our dear families live?" And the answer is the realization "that we were : it here for the benefit of the monopolistic merchants, and we saw some of our friends die already in the war." This is followed by appeals to "dear friends in Japan"--"do oppose the war, do reject being sent to Korea"--and to "dear friends in Korea"--"come over to the people's army or turn your guns back to your capitalist monopolists...." The statement was patently not written by an American. It reads exactly like an English translation of a more-or-less typical North Korean propaganda piece. Further, the speaker's voice faltered and quavered at several points in the broadcast, which was read slowly, phrase by phrase, in a tired, halting, toneless voice. Hesitation was particularly noticeable in such words as "imperialist" and "reactionary." The speaker was identified as "Captain, 24th Division Artillery, 52nd Battalion."

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"THE DISAPPEARING MYTH OF AMERICAN OMNIPOTENCE": Soviet-Communist radios are beginning to talk about a loss of U.S. military prestige as a result of the North Korean progress down the peninsula. In a Soviet Home Service broadcast Colonel Tolchenov, Radio Moscow's first military analyst of the Korean fighting, makes a particular point of the fact that, instead of expelling the defending enemy, the North Koreans "apply widely successful and complex operations, such as the encirclement and liquidation of enemy fractions, taking thousands of prisoners." This is said to "present in a most unfavorable light those U.S. military advisers who trained the South Korean troops. ... Instead of triumphant victory reports, grim messages... began to reach Washington." Tolchenov, however, does not attempt to generalize the South Korean retreats into a defeat of the U.S. Armed Forces. This is left to other Communist radios which speak about the "crushed U.S. ground forces" (Pyongyang), "the defeat after defeat of the U.S. interventionist troops" (Budapest), "the latest defeat of U.S. forces" (Warsaw), "another disgrace for the Stars and Stripes already covered with shame in China" (Berlin), and "the poor showing and state of confusion among the American forces" (Peking). Although they all imply that this "poor showing" reflects the weakness of "imperialism," few of them go as far as Radio Peking's claim that "it fully shows that American imperialism is barbaric but weak; infamous, but not to be feared." Instead, they pointedly suggest that this "poor showing" should be food for thought in the Atlantic Pact countries, where heightened fear, hesitation, consternation, and diminishing faith in the efficiency and knowledge of the U.S. military are said to reign. It is also pointedly but indirectly suggested that the U.S. may be "compelled to concentrate its armament effort in Asia, (which) will automatically cut the delivery of arms to its European vassals."

U.S. MILITARY WEAKNESS AND SOVIET-COMMUNIST STRENGTH: In all the talk about American military weakness, as reflected in Korea, there is no direct reference to the strength of the Soviet-Communist military forces. But one Warsaw commentator claims that the resulting European "confusion and uneasiness has become more aggravated" following the "resolute Soviet note making the U.S. responsible for any damages which might be suffered by Soviet ships" as a result of the blockade. Another follows a reference to the "exploded myth of American omnipotence" with the claim that the American "aggression" has heightened anti-war feeling and that "the simple people throughout the world want peace and are prepared to fight for it." A Budapest commentary about the "repeated U.S. defeats" and about the need for Hungarian vigilance "in defense of peace" concludes by calling for strengthening the "people's army." And a Berlin broadcast suggests that the American "defeat in Korea" will strengthen the European nations in their determination for "peace"--in which connection the recent treaties between the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary are held to be of "outstanding significance."

"TO STAND FOR PEACE MEANS TO FIGHT": In George Orwell's book NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR, "War Is Peace" is one of the major slogans used to reconcile the population to a state of war. In a sense, with the terminal words of the slogan transposed, this has also been true of Soviet-Communist propaganda. But this has never been so clearly revealed as in a number of Soviet-Communist broadcasts over the weekend, particularly in a broadcast PRAVDA article by L. Sobolev. Dedicated to the "peace movement," two of its references unmistakably identify the "forces of peace" as those who will bear arms against the "aggressors" in the event of war. Sobolev lists the attributes of the man who signs the Stockholm "Peace" Appeal, and the final characteristic attributed by Sobolev to such a man is phrased as follows:

"And if they succeed in unleashing another war and I am forced to carry arms, I shall use them against those who wanted the war." (This is apparently the first time that the "peace forces" have been explicitly associated with the idea of bearing arms.)

And speaking at the end of his article of the "innumerable swallows" represented by the signatories of the Stockholm Appeal, he concludes:

"Thirdly and mainly, this immense flock are not only swallows but millions of brave and courageous eagles, the force of which is well remembered by the instigators of the second world war. These eagles will extinguish the fire of war. ... The infamy which prevails at present in our planet must be stopped and it will be stopped. We will do it. We millions of people. We mankind."

Verbal associations of "peace" with possible war also appear in some of the Satellite broadcasts. Warning that the "attack on Korea" has increased the Hungarians' "duties in defense of peace" and that "Tito is lying in wait in our neighborhood," Radio Budapest,

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for example, proclaims that "to stand one's ground in the Hungarian sector means to fight these enemies who are ready to commit any deed." Radio Peking, in a commentary pledging the "doom" of the American imperialists and the "liberation" of Formosa, declares that "the peace-loving people throughout the world... will unite still more closely and deal mortal blows to the aggressors." Radio Berlin associates the Korean "attack" and the consequently "strengthened European determination for peace" with the alleged fact that "U.S. imperialism is becoming more and more hated by all the nations of the world." And there is the above-mentioned Warsaw reference to the "simple people throughout the world (who) want peace and (who) are prepared to fight for it."

WFTU'S "WEEK OF ACTIVE SOLIDARITY WITH THE KOREAN PEOPLE": A West-Berlin paper reports that according to the "Department of Foreign Relations of the Soviet-Zone Office of Information," the "partisans of peace" are planning to appeal for volunteers to form an international brigade for action with the North Koreans. This has not been confirmed explicitly in any monitored Soviet-Communist broadcasts. But a fair amount of publicity is given to the WFTU-sponsored "week of active solidarity with the Korean people," which begins today. The word "active" is not amplified. The only material assistance that has been reported is a Polish drive for "money collections which will be organized in factories for a fund to assist the victims among the defenseless civilian population barbarously bombed by the U.S. Airforce." In this connection, North Korean broadcasts repeatedly claim that the North Koreans "do not stand alone" and that they have the support of the USSR and the other "forces of peace and democracy." They do not elaborate on the nature of this support, however.

THE CONDITIONS FOR SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN MILITARY OPERATIONS: Only rarely have Soviet broadcasts made reference to the conditions under which the USSR is "permitted" to go to war. But this week, a Home Service broadcast spells out the conditions: only in case of military attack from the outside, or to fulfill international obligations for mutual defense against aggression. The commentary also makes reference to the alleged inseparability of wars from imperialism, and proclaims that the unconquerable Soviet Army stands on guard for peace.

OTHER AREAS ALLEGEDLY THREATENED BY THE "IMPERIALISTS": East-German sources continue to hold up the specter of a Korea-like "imperialist" attack on Germany. The clandestine "Free Greece" radio continues to warn about an extension of a Tito-involved "imperialist war" in the Balkans, particularly against Albania and Bulgaria. And Budapest talks about Tito "lying in wait in our neighborhood."

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